

Tribal Fish Health Lab

Revised Adult Sample Shipment Guidelines

Fall 2002

1. **Blue Ice packs** are the preferred coolant. They need to be **frozen for 48 hours** prior to shipment. Use two medium packs and one small pack. These were provided to several hatcheries last year, and we will again provide them to anyone that needs them. (*See note below).
2. The **Coleman coolers** that we supplied last year are preferred over the cardboard - with - foam lined box.
3. We will need to test the temperature of the samples when they arrive. To do that, we will need you to **place a typical sample tube - (the ones used for kidney-spleen samples) with approximately 5 mls of water (does not need to be exact) in the rack with the samples. We will note the temperature of that water when the package arrives.**
4. Wrap a layer of newspaper around the rack of tightly capped, labeled sample tubes.
5. Place the wrapped rack on the bottom of the cooler.
6. Place the Blue ice that is directly from the freezer on top of the wrapped rack.
7. Fill the empty air space with some wadded newspaper. (This helps to maintain a lower temperature as the coolant thaws, as well as secure the rack and packs in place.
8. Place the completed Sampling Form on top and close up the cooler immediately.
9. Ship as soon as possible, with overnight being the very best.
Our test samples maintained the lower temperatures very well through the first 24 hours. But, by 36 hours they had warmed considerably, which could most likely compromise the test results.
- * As an alternative, if Blue Ice coolant is not available, we found that 20 ounce screw-cap pop bottles filled with water and frozen worked very well. These also need to be frozen for 48 hours prior to shipment.

If you need any of the above shipping items, please give me a call or e-mail.

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